

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9117
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
DIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, CY, UN, TU, GR
SUBJECT: REACTION TO MAKARIOS-DENKTASH-WALDHEIM MEETING

REF: NICOSIA 0425

1. THE MEETING SATURDAY BETWEEN ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS AND
RAUF DENKTASH UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNSYG WALDHEIM WAS A
FEATURE STORY IN THE GREEK MEDIA OVER THE WEEKEND AND TODAY
(FEBRUARY 14). RADIO AND TV NEWSCASTS ON SUNDAY EVENING
CARRIED DIRECT AND FILMED REPORTS FROM NICOSIA ON THE
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 12 AND THE MEETINGS WITH THE PRESS THE
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NEXT DAY. THE PRESS REPORTING HAS BEEN PRETTY WELL CONFINED
TO DESCRIBING THE ATMOSPHERICS SURROUNDING THE MEETING
AND THE STATEMENTS TO THE MEDIA BY THE THREE PARTICI-
PANTS SUBSEQUENT TO THEIR ENCOUNTER (REFTEL). TO DATE,
WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS, PLAY HAS TENDED TOWARDS GUARDED
OPTIMISM, ALTHOUGH SOME STORIES, THROUGH THER LEAD-IN
MATERIAL, HAVE INTERPRETED CERTAIN REMARKS BY DENKTASH

AS CASTING A PALL OVER THE INITIAL FAVORABLE REACTIONS.

2. TWO FEBRUARY 14 AFTERNOON PAPERS CARRIED EDITORIALS (THERE IS NO MORNING PRESS IN ATHENS ON MONDAY). ULTRA-CONSERVATIVE ESTIA (RECOGNIZED AS BEING THE BEST INFORMED NEWSPAPER ON CYPRIOT AFFAIRS) IN TWO SEPARATE COLUMNS WAS CRITICAL OF THE GOG FOR HAVING WASTED PAST OPPORTUNITIES, THE FIRST EDITORIAL, CALLED "THE TIME FOR COMPROMISE: PROFITS AND LOSSES," SAID THAT ECEVIT'S 1974 PROPOSALS WERE NOW BEING REDISCUSSSED, AND THAT GREECE'S REJECTION OF THESE PROPOSALS FOR A FEDERATION IN GENEVA IN AUGUST 1974 LET TO ATTILA II (THE SECOND TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS) AND TO TWO AND ONE-HALF YEARS OF ANGUISH ON CYPRUS. IN ITS SEEMED (SHORTER) EDITORIAL, ENTITLED "PESSIMISTIC PROSPECTS," ESTIA WROTE THAT THESE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS SHOW THAT THE TURKS ARE GETTING EVERYTHING THEY HAVE BEEN AFTER (E.G. TALKS ON AN EQUAL BASIS, FEDERATION). PRO-GOVERNMENT VRADYNI, ON THE OTHER HAND, IN ITS EDITORIAL, GREETED WHAT IT STATED SEEMED TO BE ANOTHER STEP FORWARD TOWARD A CYPRUS SOLUTION, AND ESPECIALLY WELCOMED THE RECONVENING OF THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS.

3. SAMPLE HEADLINES INCLUDE: (SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13) LEFTIST ELEFTHERTOTYPIA, "DESPITE THE SECRECY IT BECAME KNOWN THAT A BATTLE OVER PERCENTAGES IS TAKING PLACE IN A FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE -- WALDHEIM RECOMMENDS CONTINUATION OF THE CONTACTS -- MAKARIOS, 23 PERCENT; DENKTASH 31 PERCENT." OPPOSITION, LIBERAL TO VIMA, "AMERICAN PRESSURES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ON ALL SIDES TO OPEN THE ROAD TOWARDS AN AGREED SOLUTION -- MAKARIOS-DENKTASH-WASLDHEIM DISCUSSION ON THE MAP CONCERNING THE TERRITORIAL QUESTION", COMMUNIST (KKE-INTERIOR) AVGHI, "THE ROAD FOR THE DIALOGUE IS OPENING" EXTREME RIGHTIST ELEFTHOROS COSMOS, "LONG WALDHEIM-MAKARIOS-DENKTASH MEETING --- RESERVED OPTIMISM OVER THE CYPRUS MEETING -- NEW MEETING WILL BE HELD IN MARCH". (MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14) OPPOSITION, LEFTIST TA NEA, "THE NEW INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS IN A CLIMATE OF PESSISISM-- DENKTASH APPEARED INTRANSIGENT AS EVER -- WILL THE HOPES FOR A SOLUTION BE LOST?. VRADYNI, "EVERYBODY IS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE CYPRUS QUESTION --- MAKARIOS-WALDHEIM-DENKTASH -- INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS WILL BE RESUMED". PRO-GOVERNMENT APOYEVMATINI, "AFTER THE AGREEMENT DENKTASH NOW APPEARS TOUGH -- THE SOLUTION DURING 1977" BUT A BACKPAGE HEADLINE READS "MAKARIOS AND DENKTASH AGREED ON THE GENERAL FRAMEWORK". ELEFTHERTOTYPIA, "DENKTASH SUDDENLY TOUGH AND CYNICAL -- 'LET US SACRIFICE THIS GENERATION OF CYPRIOTS' -- HOW AND WHEN HE SEES THE

'SOLUTION'".

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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